

Homeland Security Regionalization
SW Kansas Region Meeting
3-1-06

The SW Kansas Regional Council of the Homeland Security Regionalization Council met in Garden City at GCCC on March 1, 2006. Chairperson Don Button called the meeting to order. The minutes from the meeting of 1/31/06 were approved as printed.

Members of the Council attending the meeting were: Don Button, Grant Co./Emergency Management rep; Jay Taylor, Emergency Medical Services rep; John Crosby, Fire rep; Delmer Dunham, Scott Co. rep; Steve Phillips, Hamilton Co. rep; James Hawkins, City of Garden City/Police rep; Allen Shelton, Finney Co. rep; Kevin Norton, City of Dodge City rep; Dean Bush, Ford Co./Sheriff rep; John Hardy, City of Liberal rep; Mark Rine, Greeley Co. rep; Mike Burke, Hodgeman Co. rep; Mike Schechter, Stevens Co. rep; Karen Luckett, Hospital rep; Dana Shapland, Lane Co./Public Health rep; Dean Krehbiel, Kearny Co. rep; Greg Standard, Seward Co./Emergency Management rep; Chris Standard, Fire rep; Marvin Stice, Meade Co. rep; John Ralston, Emergency Medical Services rep; Vaughn Lorenson, Stanton Co. rep; Kathy McGaughey, Public Safety Communications rep; Matt Mercer, Southwest Kansas Homeland Security Coordinator.

Visitors at the meeting:

Toby Prine, Northwest Kansas Homeland Security Coordinator; Nancy Harness, Garden City Community College; Linda Morgan, Garden City Community College.

The group discussed how to fill the two 'at large' positions-agriculture and not-for-profit. Several names were brought forth as candidates for these positions. After much discussion, it was decided that any council member who has a prospective candidate for the open positions should send out an email with the name and resume of each candidate. The email should go to all council members so that each member can decide whom they would like to vote for. The vote will be done at our next meeting.

A discussion was then held on having various other people join the group such as someone with the weather service; a county extension agent; and gas/oil representatives. No action was taken.

The question was asked if the Regional Coordinator would take care of phone calls, making copies, etc. for the group. Matt M. said the answer was 'no'. A discussion was then held on hiring a '999' person. Matt M. suggested his office and the NW office could possibly share this person. Duties for this person would be things such as taking meeting minutes, making copies, etc. Toby Prine from the NW said that his region had met and decided they could not justify such a position right now-but possibly one would be needed sometime in the future. After much discussion, it was decided that we did not need such a person right now—we shall wait and see if that position is needed in the future.

Matt M. handed out copies of the investment plan. One of these was done for each subject from the information each region gave at Wichita in January 06. Matt also emphasized several times that there is plenty of exercise and training money available right now. He also stated that most other states have exercise and training committees in place. Matt also stated that the councils were put together not just for ODP fund purposes—that this was just the beginning—the council could eventually end up dealing with state training money; HazMat money; taking applications and doing education on funds and programs that are available; etc.

Don B. asked if the group wanted to break up into sub-committees to set priorities for the region and look at the top four priorities that we had set in Wichita--weather, animal/plant health, human disease, and oil/gas. It was decided not to break in to sub-committees-instead; we will do this as a group and bring in experts on these areas as needed to further the knowledge of the council.

Don B. also asked if the council wished to have a representative from the SE region in Colorado attend one of our meetings to explain how their group works. (Colorado has had these regions set up for awhile, so we could use this as a way to find out what worked for them and what didn't; ask questions, etc.) Consensus was to have someone from the SE region in Colorado come for this purpose.

It was emphasized that each council member had the responsibility of taking information back to his/her county, discipline, etc. to keep those entities informed.

There are four counties who have not had a representative at a meeting yet. It was decided not to spend an inordinate amount of time trying to 'entice' these counties to show up-they will be given information about meeting times/dates and what happens at meetings and then left to make their own decision on whether to attend meetings or not.

The council then worked through a proposed set of bylaws, making changes as desired. Don B. is to send out a copy of the revised bylaws to each council member.

A long discussion was held on which council members get to vote during meetings. The final agreement was that if you were a functional discipline representative, and also a county/city representative then you would only have one vote—not two.

These meeting minutes will not be approved until the next meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for June 7, 2006, in Garden City at GCCC.

Meeting was adjourned.

Chris Standard, Secretary

